

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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R 050900Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2798

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

UNCLAS JIDDA 7383

USIAC

USIA FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: WEEKLY EDITORIAL SUMMARY OF SAUDI PRESS

SUMMARY: IN THE PAST WEEK, SAUDI EDITORIAL COLUMNS COVERED THE FOLLOWING US-RELATED TOPICS: SADAT'S VISIT TO THE US, UN RESOLUTION ON ZIONISM, US ARMS COMMITMENTS TO ISRAEL AND THE CRISIS IN LEBANON.

END SUMMARY.

1. SADAT'S VISIT: REDA LARY IN THE OCTOBER 30 UKAZ DAILY VIEWS SADAT'S VISIT AS AN EFFORT TO INCREASE CAIRO'S WEIGHT WITH THE ARABS AFTER LOSING THE CONFIDENCE OF THE ARAB STATES WHICH FOUGHT BESIDE UNCLASSIFIED

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EGYPT. HE ADDED FURTHER THAT SADAT'S SPEECH BEFORE

CONGRESS "REPRESENTS DIRECT NEGOTIATION WITH THE TRUE HOLDER OF POWER IN THE US."

ABDULLAH MINAA (OCTOBER 30 IQRA WEEKLY) ASKS WHETHER THE US WILL "SUPPORT SADAT'S FULL TURN TO THE RIGHT SO THAT HE WOULD NEVER TURN AGAIN TO THE LEFT, OR WILL IT ADMINISTER ANOTHER DOSE OF GOOD AMERICAN INTENTIONS."

2. UN COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON ZIONISM.

AHMED AL-REFAI (OCTOBER 29 UKAZ DAILY) BELIEVES THAT THE US'S REEVALUATION OF THE ME AFTER THE OCTOBER WAR DID NOT DEAL "DIRECTLY WITH THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM" BECAUSE THE US PUTS ITS INTERESTS AND THOSE OF ISRAEL "ABOVE ALL CONSIDERATIONS AND VALUES INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL LEGALITY," WHICH IS INDICATED BY ITS SHARP REACTION TO THE UN COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTION.

FORD'S REACTION WAS NOTED BY AHMED MAHMOUD (OCTOBER 31 MEDINA DAILY) WHO SAID THAT WHENEFORD EXPRESSED HIS DISAPPROVAL OF THE UQ COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTION "HE SLIPS DOWN THE DANGEROUS PATH OF NEGLECTING AMERICAN INTERESTS BY TYING AMERICAN VALUES WITH THE DEFENSE OF ZIONISM. THIS WILL NEVER BE SUITABLE FOR ESTABLISHING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE ARABS."

3. US ARMS COMMITMENTS TO ISRAEL:

IN HIS COMMENTARY ON THE KISSINGER TV INTERVIEW REGARDING US ARMS TO ISRAEL, BORGI (OCTOBER 31 UKAZ DAILY), PRAISES THE FORD ADMINISTRATION FOR ITS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ON THE ONE HAND, WHILE ON THE OTHER HE STATES THAT THE ARMS COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL IS PROOF OF THE "US STAND VIS-A-VIS ISRAEL WHICH GROWS STRONGER EVERY DAY. THE NEUTRAL OBSERVER CAN'T BUT POINT A FINGER OF ACCUSATION AT THE US FOR ALL ISRAEL'S AGGRESSION AND NONCHALANCE."

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4. US AND THE FIGHTING IN LEBANON.

SAMIR AHMED NADARIN THE NOVEMBER 3 UKAZ DAILY SAYS THAT THE US AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT IS SUSPECTED BY THE BAATT OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE LEBANESE CRISIS BECAUSE TROUBLE FLARED UPUIN SOME LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHEN HE WAS THERE. NADA FURTHER REPORTS RAMON EDDE AS SAYING THAT THE "FIGHTING WILL CONTINUE AS

LONG AS THE US WANTS IT TO CONINUE." IBRAHIM NOTES
IN THE NOVEMBER 2 RIYADH DAILY THAT SOME OBSERVERS
BELIEVE THAT THE EVENTS IN LEBANON ARE A REACTION TO
THE SINAI AGREEMENT, WHILE OTHERS SAY THAT ISRAEL
WOULD NOT HAVE AGREED TO THE SINAI ACCORD "WITHOUT
AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO DIVIDE LEBANON."
SABBAGH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JIDDA07383
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750384-0205
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751173/aaaacnbv.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 SEP 2003 by chicheje>; APPROVED <23 FEB 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKLY EDITORIAL SUMMARY OF SAUDI PRESS SUMMARY: IN THE PAST WEEK, SAUDI EDITORIAL COLUMNS
TAGS: SOPN
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006